

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at line 19 on page 12 with the following paragraph:

Add the paragraph here.

Figure 9 depicts a modified slicer structure that can be used in connection with the communication apparatus of Figure 4. In this modified slicer structure, a slicer 901 produces an estimate **[902]** **907** of the original transmitted symbol 419 of Figure 4. This estimate is filtered by a digital filter whose response is αZ^{-n} , that is, delayed by n taps and multiplied by α , where α can be a complex number. An output 909 of the filter 905 is subtracted from the next input sample 902 by a subtractor 903 to generate a slicer input 906. The output 909 is also summed with a slicer output 907 by a summer 904 to generate a modified slicer output 908. In receivers where an error estimate is needed for adaptation, such an estimate can be calculated by subtracting the slicer output 907 from the slicer input 906 or by subtracting the modified slicer output 908 from the estimate 902. The latter calculation method realizes improved robustness for error propagation.